

10-1963

# Churches of Christ Salute You with a Herald of Truth: October Sermons

Herald of Truth


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CHURCHES  
OF  
CHRIST  
SALUTE  
YOU

ROM. 16:16

Radio  
Sermons

Herald  
of  
Truth



# HERALD OF TRUTH

Published each month in the interest of world-wide radio and television evangelism. Each issue contains the sermons broadcast on the nation-wide facilities of the Mutual Broadcasting System, the American Broadcasting Company and many independent stations.

OCTOBER, 1963

ABILENE, TEXAS

VOL. XI, NO. 10

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W. F. CAWYER, Editor

HERALD OF TRUTH is a monthly publication of the Church of Christ, So. 5th and Highland, P.O. Box 2001, Abilene, Texas. This publication, and the radio and television programs bearing the name, HERALD OF TRUTH, are under the direction and supervision of the elders of the Highland congregation.

This publication is mailed to anyone requesting a copy and to each contributor of \$2.00 or more to the world-wide radio and television program.

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## WILL YOU . . . THAT THEY MIGHT?

As we read our daily newspapers and hear the news of the world from radio, television and other means of communication, we are reminded that the world, and especially America, is quickly deteriorating spiritually, morally and almost every other way. Are we forgetting what foundation America was built upon? In Jeremiah 10:23 the prophet in praying to God said, "O Lord, I know that the way of man is not in himself: it is not in man that walketh to direct his steps". By the material blessings God has poured down upon us and the prosperity that we enjoy, we are blinded to our need for God. Men and women are dying every minute of the day never having heard whether or not there be a God. They have never heard a gospel sermon telling them of Christ who died that they might have life. Brethren, are we too busy consuming the lust of this world's goods to help teach someone the "way of life"? In John 2:17 John tells us that "... the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth forever."

Will you help us carry the gospel to a world of people in darkness and by so doing save a soul from eternal destruction and make this world a better place in which to live?

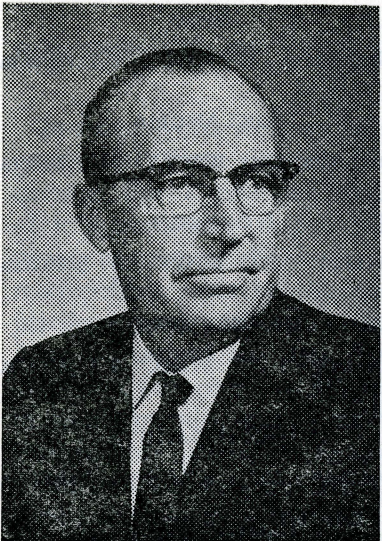
—A. L. HADDOX

### MOVING?

We would appreciate your notifying us in advance if possible when you have a change of address, please indicate both OLD and NEW addresses. Thanks!

## A Great Challenge

by Elwin A. Bedichek



Elwin A. Bedichek

Elwin A. Bedichek, an elder of Highland Church of Christ for the past three years, is on the Radio Committee of the Herald of Truth program and is a dedicated worker for the cause of Christ on radio and television as well as in every way that the truth can be published throughout the land. A member of the Lord's church since 1917, he was baptized at the old College Church in Abilene by his evangelist father, E. A. Bedichek, at age 12. A 1931 graduate of Abilene Christian College, brother Bedichek is married to the former Lorena Burden of Rochester, who is also a graduate of ACC. They have four children; Tom, who preaches part-time while doing graduate work at ACC toward a master's in Bible; Jerry, a freshman student at ACC; Betty Sue, in the eleventh grade at ACC High School; and Donald, who is in the fifth grade at ACC Campus School. Both brother and sister Bedichek are Bible school teachers at Highland church, where they have worshipped for the past 24 years.

Prior to becoming an elder, brother Bedichek was a deacon at the Highland congregation for a number of years. He has been associated with Lydick-Hooks Roofing Company in Abilene as office manager for the past 21 years.

Congregations of the Lord's church are frequently faced with

the question: "How may we effectively contribute to the success of the work on foreign soil and encourage those workers on the field?"

We at Highland believe that question has been answered, at least with regard to the work in Europe.

Recently, the Highland congregation in Abilene was successful in acquiring time on Radio Europe No. 1, the most powerful long-wave radio station in Europe, for the Herald of Truth program. This station has a potential audience of 187 millions, which includes France, Germany, England, Luxembourg, Italy, Switzerland, Belgium and Holland, as well as parts of Spain, Norway, Sweden and Ireland.

This is a rare opportunity and will open doors never before possible.

No single opportunity has ever

provided a greater challenge for the Herald of Truth program. The cost of reaching these many millions is indeed infinitesimal.

We, the elders of the Highland congregation believe, as do you, that such an opportunity is indeed a grave responsibility to Christians everywhere. The public relations effect alone will be of untold worth to the cause of Christ in Europe—acquainting these people with the church of our Lord. As responses to the program come, and they will surely come, contacts can be made and souls can be taught and led to Christ.

Some of the European workers from whom we have heard are joyfully elated at hearing the good news because it makes it possible for them to announce the good news of the truth of God to so many.

We earnestly solicit your prayers.

### FROM INDIANA:

Gentlemen:

First, may I commend you for the "Herald of Truth" series. With the entrance in our area of this media of gospel preaching, the work is moving ahead with increased vigor. You are doing a great work, and our prayers are with you." —John N. C.

### FROM OREGON:

Dear Sirs:

I see and hear your services every Sunday morning at 8:30 on television and I do enjoy them so much.

Your teaching is so fine and right from the Bible.

The series of real life stories right now certainly are heart warming and wonderful. They help us to know we have a wonderful Savior waiting and ready to save the lost, and much, much more.

Thank you most sincerely for those wonderful programs and the devotion and love to our Savior which they inspire.

I am teaching in child evangelism and I need Jesus every step of the way. —Mrs. F. S.



STATIONS CARRYING HERALD OF TRUTH  
Television Programs

City	Station	Ch.	Time	City	Station	Ch.	Time	City	Station	Ch.	Time
ALABAMA				MAINE				OHIO			
Birmingham	WBRC	6	5:05 a.m. (Wed.)	Presque Isle	WAGM		1:30 p.m.	Columbus	WTVN-TV	6	11:30 a.m.
Huntsville	WFAG		1:00 p.m.	MICHIGAN				OKLAHOMA			
ALASKA				Bay City	WNEM	5	11:00 a.m.	Oklahoma City	KWTV	9	10:30 a.m.
Juneau	KINY	8	1:30 p.m.	Detroit	CKLW	9	11:00 a.m.	OREGON			
ARIZONA				Flint	WNEM	5	11:00 a.m.	Portland	KPTV	12	8:30 a.m.
Tucson	KOLD	13	10:15 a.m.	Grand Rapids	WZZM	13	10:30 a.m.	PENNSYLVANIA			
ARKANSAS				Saginaw	WNEM	5	11:00 a.m.	Johnstown	WJAC	6	10:00 a.m.
Fort Smith	KFSA	5	9:30 a.m.	MINNESOTA				SOUTH DAKOTA			
Jonesboro	KAIT		2:30 p.m.	St. Paul	WCCO			Aberdeen	KXAB	9	5:30 p.m.
CALIFORNIA				MISSISSIPPI				TENNESSEE			
Bakersfield	KLYD	17	1:30 p.m.	Biloxi	WLOX-TV	13	1:00 p.m.	Chattanooga	WRCB	3	9:00 a.m.
Bakersfield	KBAK	29	10:30 a.m.	Columbus	WCBI	4		Johnson City	WJHL	11	11:00 a.m.
Chico	KHSL	12	8:30 a.m.	Greenwood	WABG	6	3:30 p.m.	Nashville	WSM	4	7:00 a.m.
Eureka	KVIQ	6	10:00 a.m.	Jackson	WJTV	12	10:00 a.m.	TEXAS			
Fresno	KJEO	47	1:00 p.m.	Tupelo	WTWV	9	2:00 p.m.	Abilene	KPAR	12	11:35 a.m.
Los Angeles	KTLA	5	8:30 a.m.	MISSOURI				Amarillo	KVII	7	8:00 a.m.
Redding	KVIP	7	10:00 a.m.	Cape Girardeau	KFVS	12	8:30 a.m.	El Paso	KELP	13	2:30 p.m.
San Francisco	KGO	7	8:30 a.m. (Every 4th Sunday)	Jefferson City	KRCG	13	2:00 p.m.	Lubbock	KLBK	13	8:30 a.m.
San Jose	KNTV	11		St. Louis	KPLR	11	10:30 a.m.	Lufkin	KTRE-TV	9	12:30 p.m.
COLORADO				St. Louis	KTVI	2	10:00 a.m.	Sherman	KXII	12	5:00 p.m. (Sat.)
Grand Junction	KREX	5	10:00 a.m.	Springfield	KYTV	3	8:30 a.m.	VIRGINIA			
FLORIDA				NEBRASKA				Richmond—			
Fort Myers	WINK	11	10:30 a.m.	North Platte	KNOP	2	12:30 p.m.	Petersburg	WXEX	8	9:30 a.m.
Orlando	WLOF	9	1:00 p.m.	Omaha	KMTV	3	8:30 a.m.	Portsmouth	WAVY	10	9:30 a.m.
Tampa—				NEW MEXICO				WEST VIRGINIA			
St. Petersburg	WSUN	38	10:00a.m.	Albuquerque	KOAT-TV	4	12:00 Noon	Bluefield	WHIS	6	9:15 a.m.
IDAHO				Clovis	KVER	12	8:30 a.m.	Huntington	WHTN	13	10:30 a.m. (Sat.)
Twin Falls	KLIX	11	2:00 p.m.	NEW YORK				Oak Hill	WOAY	4	8:30 a.m.
ILLINOIS				Utica	WKTV	2	9:00 a.m.	WISCONSIN			
Harrisburg	WSIL	3	1:30 p.m.	NORTH CAROLINA				Green Bay	WLUK	11	10:30 a.m.
Rockford	WTVO	39	8:30 a.m.	Asheville	WISE	62	6:30 p.m. (Sat.)				
INDIANA				Washington	WITN	6					
Elkhart	WSJV		10:00 a.m. (Mon.)	NORTH DAKOTA							
KENTUCKY				Bismarck	KFYR	5	9:30 a.m.				
Bowling Green	WLTV	13	4:00 p.m.	Minot	KMOT	10	9:30 a.m.				
Louisville	WAVE	3	9:30 a.m.	Williston	KUMV	8	10:00 a.m.				
LOUISIANA											
New Orleans	WVUE	13	11:00 a.m. (Every third Sunday)								
Shreveport	KSLA	12	8:00 a.m.								

This list is not 100% correct due to frequent changes.  
Check your local newspaper or television station for times not listed.  
All times are Sunday unless otherwise indicated.

Juvenile Delinquency - - -  
and What To Do About It!

By Batsell Barrett Baxter

Radio Sermon No. 610

ABC and MBS Networks

October 6, 1963

In recent years we have heard a great deal about juvenile delinquency. For a time we thought of it as something that was happening somewhere else—in the large metropolitan areas or the underprivileged areas of our nation. Most of us had the idea that it could not happen to us. However, in recent months most of us have realized that juvenile delinquency is our problem, too. We have been rudely awakened to the fact that it affects all strata of American life, the rich as well as the poor, and that it is a problem of considerable proportions.

WHAT IS  
JUVENILE DELINQUENCY?

We have become so familiar with the expression *juvenile delinquency* that we often say the words without really thinking of what is involved. I should like to be very specific. We need to pause and seriously consider exactly what this term means. Rather than give a broad definition in relatively meaningless concepts, I want to define it in terms of real acts. I have chosen real experiences that I know have happened in my own community during the past year, rather than something that happened to someone else far away. In this framework, I would answer the question, "What is juvenile delinquency?"

Juvenile delinquency means a girl from a local high school peddling marijuana at a drive-in movie . . . It means vandalism that knocks down a row of mail boxes

on a quiet street at night . . . It means a car broken into and driven away at high speed, only to be abandoned later in another part of the city . . . It means public schools ransacked and the valuable contents turned upside down and ruined . . . It means pornographic literature . . . It means vulgar and profane speech . . . It means fast irresponsible, dangerous, show-off driving on the highway . . . It means school books stolen and resold . . . It means teen-age drinking . . . It means late hours . . . It means writing bad checks . . . It means parking on lonely roads at night and promiscuous petting . . . It means stealing hub caps, especially spinners . . . It means experimentation with sex that leaves deep scars, feelings of guilt, and a burned-out spirit . . . It means lying to parents . . . It means gangs or clubs in which self-control and good judgment are dissolved by the group pressure and the group behaves worse than any one of its individual members would normally behave . . . It means laziness instead of work . . . It means day-dreaming instead of studying . . . It means rebellion instead of obedience . . . It means sorrow instead of happiness . . . Juvenile delinquency leads downward toward destruction rather than upward toward heaven.

WHAT ARE THE CAUSES?

Although it is somewhat presumptuous to set out to name all of the contributing factors or causes

in the development of juvenile delinquency, I can at least name some that have played a prominent part. I would begin with the fact that there have been great changes in our values, in our habits of thinking, and in our way of life during the past twenty-five years. For example, twenty-five years ago teen-age young people were *accompanied by chaperones* on their dates. Occasionally, a parent would go along; more often it would be a brother or sister. At the least, it would be required that teen-agers double-date. Today, however, even the suggestion of a chaperone on a date is considered so old-fashioned as to be ridiculous. This relatively simple change has meant a freedom and a lack of restraint that many young people have not been mature enough to use properly.

In addition, there is a *greater mobility* in our society today than twenty-five years ago. Teen-agers, by the simple expedient of using the family car, can spend an evening far from parental supervision. They can be in another town or another community and among completely strange surroundings and unknown people without any effort at all. This, too, tends to remove restraints and give young people unwarranted freedoms and encouragement to do anything that their whims might suggest.

The influence of *television and movies* has also been a dominant influence during the past quarter-century. Whereas in the old days



a youngster might see a movie once or twice a month, he now has the opportunity to see the morning movie, the after-school movie, and the late-evening movie every day in his own home. Many of these movies present love, marriage, drinking, and life in general in a far from idealistic manner. Our young people are exposed to adult behavior of a hurtful kind much too early for their own good. This has meant an undermining of moral and ethical values. This influence has probably been stronger than any other single one in leading to the attitudes and behavior of delinquency.

A recent case is interesting. A local newspaper person, after receiving advertising concerning a certain movie, called a responsible man who has been connected with community betterment and law enforcement, to suggest, "We have just received advertising for this movie. I would suggest that a few additional officers be placed at such-and-such drive-in theater, because this has proved to be quite inflammatory in other cities where it has been shown." Many cities have no censor board to screen out even the worst movies. As a result, movies are being shown that could not be shown in other, more responsible cities.

During this same interval of time *drinking* has become more widespread, and, because of an extensive and expensive program of advertising, more respectable. The liquor industry has announced that it will spend \$250,000,000 in advertising its products this year. Much of this advertising comes into our own living rooms through television and attractively printed magazines. Undoubtedly this has had its effect upon young people.

The use of *dope*, while not extensive, is also present. It is possible to buy "bennies" and "goof balls" in many places. Of course, other kinds of narcotics are also

available here and there, at least some of the time.

*Dancing* with its intimate bodily contact, has been so widely accepted that only a few voices are raised to question it. Twenty-five years ago a number of churches opposed dancing, but there are only a few who stand in opposition to it today.

*Sensuous music*, heard all day long from a chorus of radio stations, has also had its effect. Music touches our emotions and unconsciously determines attitudes and behavior. A constant diet of popular music, which is often suggestive and even immoral, has played a more significant role in the attitudes of young people than most of us dare to think. In this connection I would like to point out that every night club and honky-tonk and dive in America uses drinking, dancing, and sensuous music as a major or central part of its program of activities. Without exception, in the most morally degrading places in America, drinking, dancing, and sensuous music are used. Does this not say something? Does this not suggest to Christian parents and teenagers that such are suspect?

We in America have also been subjected to the most extensive bombardment of *sex advertising* in the history of the world. No nation on earth has been so oversexed as America in our generation. It seems that no product is willing to stand on its own merits, but somehow it must bring in sex in order to get people to buy it. As a result, from the covers of almost every magazine, on many billboards, in television commercials and programs, and in countless other places semi-nude pictures exploit the young with this sex emphasis.

Parallel to these influences has been the fact that *less and less work* is available for our young people. Instead of the old days

with cows to milk, gardens to keep, and countless other regular daily chores, twentieth century life finds many thousands of young people living in cities where there is relatively little work to be done. This creates a great vacuum of worthwhile activity, a vacuum that has been only too eagerly filled by negative and hurtful influences.

In addition, there has been *too much money* lavished upon our young people. Their *entertainment*, their necessities and their luxuries have come so easily that they have caused a decline in respect for property. Too many young people have had access to cars, sometimes even while in high school having cars of their own. Our affluent society, while intending to be a blessing to our young people, has actually deprived them of the stamina-building experiences of hard work and sacrifice.

During this same interval of time there has been a great *de-emphasis upon parental respect*. America is the only land in the world where young people are placed upon the pedestal rather than those of age and experience. In every other nation on earth it is the older, wiser, and more experienced people who have the primary place of respect and authority. Too often, here in America, the decisions of families are really made by the demands and the insistence of the children. How illogical! Yet, how common. This has been a generation in which parental discipline has declined greatly. Parents have been too permissive. The old standards of behavior and the old restrictions have been relaxed.

Our generation has had a materialistic emphasis to a greater degree than previous generations. Spiritual values are down; material values are up. Pleasure has been exalted as a chief end of life. This has led many to think that things

are more important than people or principles.

Finally, among the causes that have led to juvenile delinquency, I would place *poor adult examples*. Perhaps this is the most significant cause of all. For example, recently a boy in a local high school came into the office of the attendance officer and suggested that he call home and ask the mother where her son was. The officer told me, "I suppose I should not have done so, but I decided to go along with the boy to see what would happen." While the boy sat across the office, the attendance officer called the home and asked the mother where her son was. Immediately she said, "He is upstairs in his room, sick." The boy left the office saying, "I thought she would lie for me."

I might add that the boy learned something about his mother that will destroy all future confidence in her. When your mother is a liar, you do not have much incentive to be honest, truthful, moral, or anything else. In our generation adults have made gambling a big business. Drinking is engaged in by some 65,000,000 Americans. Lying, stealing, and immorality are common and our young people know it. I was startled some time ago to learn that one out of every eight babies born in England today is illegitimate. Later, I was shocked to learn that one out of every eight babies born in a major American city is illegitimate. Only this last week a leading doctor told a group that one out of every eleven babies born in my own state is illegitimate. This brings it home to me in a most disturbing way.

#### WHAT CAN BE DONE?

The answer to our problem is parents. Parents are largely responsible for the present juvenile delinquency that is so disturbing. Therefore, parents must take the

lead in solving the problem. When God guided Solomon to write, "Train up a child in the way he should go, and even when he is old he will not depart from it" (Proverbs 22:6), he had in mind parents and their responsibility. When God placed the fourth commandment, "Honor thy father and thy mother, that thy days may be long in the land which Jehovah thy God giveth thee" (Exodus 20:12), in His list of ten major commandments, He had in mind that parents should teach and require this. When God guided Paul to write to the Ephesians, "Children obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right. Honor thy father and thy mother (which is the first commandment with promise), that it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live long on the earth," he also was thinking of parents, for the next sentence reads, "And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath; but nurture them in the chastening and admonition of the Lord" (Ephesians 6:1-4).

Every stable, lasting civilization has had a system involving respect for parents and for parental discipline. Parents must be worthy. Too often, parents in our time have been too busy making a living, having a good time, and doing other things to rear their own children adequately. Too often they have had the wrong standards of values, placing things above principles and people. Too often, they have been weak when it came to the leadership and direction of their children.

Only recently a listener to our television program in Norfolk, Virginia, sent me a very excellent "Code for Parents" which I would like to share with you. It has the approval of the Superintendent of Schools, the Chairman of the School Board, the Mayor, the Chief of Police, and the Judge of the Juvenile Court of Norfolk. It reads:

1. Encourage our young people to entertain their friends at home where there will be adequate supervision, without undue restriction.
2. Confine parties only to those who have been invited and encourage our boys and girls not to attend those to which they have not been invited.
3. Know where our sons and daughters are going for recreation, with whom they are going, and when they will return home.
4. Prohibit the serving of beer or other alcoholic beverages in our home and discourage them from going to places where such beverages are served, always mindful of the harmful effects of alcohol.
5. Impress upon the minds of our youth that the driver of an automobile is personally responsible for the lives of his passengers, and either directly or indirectly for the safety of other drivers and passengers.
6. Instill into our young people the importance of respecting the rights and property of others of the community.
7. Know the type of outside entertainment our young people prefer and keep ourselves informed on local movies, television programs, community entertainment, beach recreation and the type of literature they read.
8. Attend church as a family group. Urge our boys and girls to participate in the youth program of the church.
9. Conduct ourselves at all times so that our young people can and will respect our authority.

(Continued on page 11)



# The Supper of the Lord

By Batsell Barrett Baxter

Radio Sermon No. 611

ABC and MBS Networks

October 13, 1963

In the early centuries of Christian history there were a great many uninspired writings in addition to the writings that were inspired of God. These writings are most interesting although they do not have the authority that the Scriptures possess. These writings have been gathered together and are bound in volumes known as the *Ante-Nicene Fathers*. They come from many pens over a span of some three centuries and they contain valuable information which is quite stimulating to Christian faith. I would like to read, at this time, a description of the early Christians' worship from the writings of Justin Martyr, who was born approximately 114 A.D. The apostle John, the last of the apostles, had died only ten or fifteen years before the birth of Justin. Justin wrote during the middle or latter half of the second century. He was a prominent apologist, by which we mean that he wrote defenses of Christianity and sent them to various leaders and rulers.

In his "First Apology," in section sixty-seven, he described what he designated as the "Weekly Worship of the Christians," from which I now read, "And on the day called Sunday, all who live in cities or in the country gather together to one place, and the memoirs of the apostles or the writings of the prophets are read, as long as time permits; then, when the reader has ceased, the president (by which he means the presiding officer) verbally instructs, and exhorts to the imitation of these good things. Then we all rise to-

gether and pray, and, as we before said, when our prayer is ended, bread and wine and water are brought, and the president in like manner offers prayers and thanksgiving, according to his ability, and the people assent, saying Amen; and there is a distribution to each, and a participation of that over which thanks have been given, and to those who are absent a portion is sent by the deacons. And they who are well-to-do, and willing, give what each thinks fit; and what is collected is deposited with the president, who succors the orphans and widows, and those who, through sickness or any other cause, are in want, and those who are in bonds, and the strangers sojourning among us, and in a word takes care of all who are in need. But Sunday is the day on which we all hold our common assembly because it is the first day on which God, having wrought a change in the darkness and matter, made the world; and Jesus Christ our Savior on the same day rose from the dead. For He was crucified on the day before that of Saturn [Saturday]; and on the day after that of Saturn, which is the day of the Sun, having appeared to His apostles and disciples He taught them these things, which we have submitted to you also for your consideration" (*Ante-Nicene Christian Library*, Vol. II, pp. 65-66).

## AVENUES OF WORSHIP

In this message I want to emphasize the worship of our Lord through the eating of the Lord's Supper, but let me first mention the other avenues or aspects of

worship. When we confine ourselves to the teachings of the New Testament there are only five acts, or avenues, or ways of worship: the singing of hymns, the offering of prayers, the giving of our means, the teaching and hearing of the apostles' doctrine, and the eating of the Lord's Supper. The lighting of candles, the offering of incense, the use of instruments of music and other avenues or acts of worship are not mentioned in the pages of the New Testament. Even in this twentieth century we should, therefore, confine ourselves to these authorized avenues of worship.

Let me emphasize that the early Christians met on the first day of the week to engage in their worship activities. I have already mentioned this from Justin Martyr in the second century, but let me mention it more meaningfully from the scriptures. In Acts 20:7 the inspired writer Luke, who was traveling with the apostle Paul said, "And upon the first day of the week, when we were gathered together to break bread, Paul discoursed with them." Notice that it was on the first day of the week. No one questions that it was Sunday, or, as it is referred to more often, the Lord's Day. In I Corinthians 16:2, we find further evidence: "Upon the first day of the week let each one of you lay by him in store, as he may prosper, that no collections be made when I come." A still further evidence that they met on the first day of the week is found in Revelation 1:10, in the apostle

John's statement, "I was in the spirit on the Lord's Day."

## EVERY LORD'S DAY

Now to these scriptural statements we add the agreement of the uninspired writers of the early centuries, like Justin Martyr, Tertullian and others. *Erskine's Dissertations*, for example, says that the Lord's Supper was eaten every Sunday until the seventh century in the Greek Orthodox Church. I might add while speaking of the weekly observance of the Lord's Supper that John Calvin, as late as the 16th century, lamented the fact that the weekly observance of the Lord's Supper was going out of style. There are a great many in our day who eat the Lord's Supper only on the first Sunday of the month, or quarterly, or semi-annually, or annually, whereby they are robbing themselves of one of the greatest privileges that Christians have, that is, assembling each Lord's Day, like the early Christians, around the Lord's table to eat the Lord's Supper. I would ask any thoughtful person, "Do you not need to grow spiritually each week? Do you not need this spiritual sustenance more often than annually? or semi-annually? or even monthly?" The answer, of course, is that we all need all of the spiritual food we can get. Therefore, let us restore everywhere this idea of eating the Lord's Supper every Lord's Day. This is primitive New Testament practice. It has the authority of the apostles behind it; the scriptures are behind it. Let me encourage no one to rob himself of the great privilege by doing it only occasionally.

## KEY PASSAGES

The Lord's Supper is described in the New Testament in four major passages. In Matthew 26:26-30, in Mark 14:22-26, and in Luke 22:14-20, in the gospel narratives. In each of these cases it is the

telling of how the Lord's Supper was instituted. Each deserves careful reading, for each adds certain details that the others do not contain. The fourth passage in which the Lord's Supper is discussed in detail and the most meaningful for those of us who are separated by centuries from the beginning of the New Testament church is I Corinthians 11:23-30. I want to read this passage with you so that its meaning may be clear in our minds.

It begins, "For I received of the Lord that which also I delivered unto you, that the Lord Jesus in the night in which he was betrayed . . ." (I Corinthians 11:23). I interrupt the reading to comment briefly that this is a letter written by the apostle Paul to the Christians at Corinth. It was written in the middle of the first century, twenty years or more after the church at Jerusalem had been established, twenty years or more after Christ had instituted the Lord's Supper on the night in which He was betrayed. Our minds go back to the accounts in Matthew, Mark, and Luke of how Jesus sent Peter and John to Jerusalem to arrange a place where He could eat the Passover with His disciples. They found a large upper room furnished for the purpose. There would be a table and some couches. On this table they provided the lamb a year old without blemish, unleavened bread, bitter herbs, and the fruit of the vine. This is all that would be included in the Passover feast. During the meal Jesus took from these items on the table before Him the two that He wished to perpetuate in the Lord's Supper, the unleavened bread and the fruit of the vine.

## PERMANENT CHRISTIAN WORSHIP

When Paul says, "I delivered unto you," he means that he had already taught the Christians at

Corinth to eat the Lord's Supper when he preached to them the first time. Thus we know with absolute certainty that the Lord's Supper was not something done just one time, but that it is a perpetual part of Christian worship, because here Paul is teaching it to the Corinthians a score of years after Christ instituted it. It is something to be handed down from generation to generation as an act of Christian worship.

Paul continues, "In the night in which he was betrayed he took bread; and when he had given thanks, he brake it, and said, This is my body, which is for you: this do in remembrance of me. In like manner also the cup, after supper, saying, This cup is the new covenant in my blood: this do as often as ye drink it, in remembrance of me." Again, I would interrupt our reading to comment on the two elements of the Lord's Supper—the unleavened bread, or bread without yeast, which stands in the place of Christ's body; and the fruit of the vine, or the juice of the grape, which stands in place of Christ's blood. The question of whether "the fruit of the vine" was fermented or not has often risen. In all probability in ancient Palestine it was fresh grape juice during part of the year, and then, by natural fermentation, it would be partially fermented at other times in the year more remote from the grape harvest. Perhaps you noticed in the opening reading from Justin Martyr that it was "bread and wine *and water*." It was the practice, Justin tells us, to mix water with the wine lest there be some danger of intoxication, especially to the young.

## BEAUTIFULLY SYMBOLIC

What a magnificent choice these two elements were. They are beautifully symbolic, available everywhere, inexpensive, and mean-



# STATIONS CARRYING HERALD OF TRUTH RADIO PROGRAMS

KC City	Station	Time	KC City	Station	Time	KC City	Station	Time
ALABAMA						MICHIGAN		
1390	Anniston .... WHMA	8:30 p.m.	1320	Jacksonville.. WZOK	9:30 p.m.	1600	Ann Arbor.... WHRV	6:35 p.m.
1230	Auburn ..... WAUD	8:30 p.m.	1340	Marianna .... WTYS	8:30 p.m.	1400	Benton Hrbr. WSJM	
1150	Bay Minette .. WBCA	12:30 p.m.	1230	New Smyrna		1270	Detroit ..... WXYZ	10:00 p.m.
900	Birmingham .. WATV	8:30 a.m.		Beach ..... WSBB	5:35 p.m.	680	Escanaba .... WDBC	8:30 p.m.
	Boaz (Sat.) ... WBSA	8:30 a.m.	1290	Ocala ..... WTMC	5:35 p.m.	1470	Flint ..... WKMF	9:30 p.m.
1370	Calera ..... WBYE		1230	Quincy ..... WCNH	5:35 p.m.	1450	Holland ..... WHTC	8:35 p.m.
990	Centre ..... WEIS	1:30 p.m.	1450	Stuart ..... WSTU	6:35 p.m.	1510	Jackson ..... WJCO	9:00 a.m.
1490	Decatur ..... WAJF	1:05 p.m.	1270	Tallahassee .. WTAL	9:30 p.m.	1450	Ludington ... WKLA	9:30 p.m.
1400	Demopolis ... WXAL	5:35 p.m.	620	Tampa-St.		1320	Marquette ... WDMJ	
560	Dothan ..... WOOF	12:35 p.m.		Petersburg .. WSUN	7:30 a.m.	850	Muskegon ... WKBZ	9:30 p.m.
1240	Florence .... WOWL	8:30 p.m.	1490	Winter Haven WSIR	5:35 p.m.	1310	Traverse City WCCW	8:00 a.m.
1310	Foley ..... WHEP	1:00 p.m.	GEORGIA			MINNESOTA		
1350	Gadsden ..... WGAD	8:30 p.m.	1440	Bremen ..... WWCC	8:30 a.m.	930	Aitkin ..... KKN	5:35 p.m.
1230	Haleyville ... WJBB	4:35 p.m.	1220	Camilla ..... WCLB	8:00 a.m.	1450	Breckenridge KBMW	
1340	Sylacauga ... WMLS	4:30 p.m.	1450	Cartersville .. WBHF	5:35 p.m.	1340	Eveleth ..... WEVE	5:35 p.m.
1230	Talladega ... WNUZ	1:05 p.m.	1420	Columbus ... WPNX	9:30 p.m.	850	Minneapolis—	
970	Troy ..... WTBK	5:35 p.m.	1490	Cordele ..... WMJM	6:35 p.m.		St. Paul ..... KRST	8:30 p.m.
1280	Tuscaloosa ... WNPT	8:30 p.m.	1240	Fitzgerald ... WBHB	6:35 p.m.	MISSISSIPPI		
ALASKA			1450	Griffin ..... WKEU	10:35 p.m.	1240	Aberdeen ... WMPA	8:30 a.m.
900	Fairbanks ... KFRB	8:30 a.m.	990	Hinesville ... WGML	1:30 p.m.	1400	Boonville ... WBIP	12:30 p.m.
ARIZONA			1240	La Grange ... WLAG	9:00 a.m.	1580	Centerville ... WGLC	8:00 a.m.
1260	Casa Grande .. KPIN	9:00 a.m.	1450	Savannah ... WBYG	5:35 p.m.	1450	Clarksdale ... WROX	5:35 p.m.
600	Flagstaff ..... KCLS	8:05 a.m.	1490	West Point ... WRLD	9:30 p.m.	1330	Greenville ... WJPR	5:35 p.m.
550	Phoenix ..... KOY	9:30 p.m.	IDAHO			620	Jackson ..... WJDX	8:30 p.m.
1490	Prescott ..... KYCA	3:35 p.m.		Albion ..... KMVC		1450	Natchez ..... WNAT	2:00 p.m.
1230	Safford ..... KATO	1:30 p.m.	590	Idaho Falls ... KID	8:00 a.m.	1420	Vicksburg ... WQBC	4:35 p.m.
1050	Show Low .. KVWM	9:00 a.m.	970	Rupert ..... KAYT	9:00 a.m.	MISSOURI		
1250	Wilcox ..... KHIL	2:00 p.m.	1400	Sand Point ... KSPT	9:00 a.m.	960	Cape	
1400	Yuma ..... KVOY	8:30 p.m.	ILLINOIS			Girardeau .... KFVS	7:30 a.m.	
ARKANSAS			1160	Chicago ..... WJJD	8:30 a.m.	1400	Columbia .... KFRU	9:30 p.m.
1340	Batesville .... KBTA	1:00 p.m.	1450	Springfield ... WCVS	8:30 p.m.	1450	Joplin ..... WMBH	4:35 p.m.
1480	Berryville .... KTHS	12:05 p.m.	INDIANA			810	Kansas City ... KCMO	8:30 a.m.
910	Blytheville ... KLCN	8:30 a.m.	1550	New Castle ... WCTW	1:05 p.m.	1340	Mexico ..... KXEO	9:05 a.m.
910	Camden ..... KAMD	5:35 p.m.	1460	No. Vernon ... WOCH	8:30 a.m.	1490	Rolla ..... KTTR	1:00 p.m.
1260	Corning ..... KCCB	10:00 a.m.	1450	Vincennes ... WAOV	5:35 p.m.	1490	St. Louis .... WANV	8:30 p.m.
1360	Helena ..... KFFA	4:35 p.m.	1580	Washington ... WAMW		MONTANA		
1230	Jonesboro ... KBTM	5:35 p.m.	FM 106.5 Wash. ... WFML		1230	Anaconda .... KANA	8:05 a.m.	
920	Little Rock ... KARK	5:30 p.m.	IOWA			1240	Billings ..... KBMY	
1430	Monticello ... KHBM	2:00 p.m.	1340	Clinton ..... KROS	8:35 p.m.	1240	Glasgow ..... KLTZ	9:30 p.m.
1370	Prescott ..... KTPA		1400	Fort Dodge ... KVFJ	8:05 a.m.	1340	Miles City ... KATL	9:30 p.m.
1290	Siloam Spgs. KUOA	4:35 p.m.	1490	Mason City ... KRIB	5:35 p.m.	910	Missoula .... KYSS	
CALIFORNIA			KANSAS			1450	Wolf Point ... KVCK	3:35 p.m.
1280	Arroyo		790	Colby ..... KXXX	1:00 p.m.	NEBRASKA		
	Grande ..... KCJH		1470	Liberal ..... KLIB	9:00 a.m.	610	Chadron ..... KCRS	8:15 a.m.
950	Auburn ..... KAHJ	9:00 a.m.	1290	Pratt ..... KWNS	8:30 a.m.	1300	McCook ..... KBLR	4:35 p.m.
1230	Bakersfield .. KGEE	10:00 a.m.	1250	Topeka ..... WREN	8:30 p.m.	1490	Omaha ..... KBON	9:30 p.m.
1300	Brawley ..... KRPO	8:35 a.m.	KENTUCKY			960	Scottsbluff ... KNEB	9:00 a.m.
1490	Calexico ..... KICO	9:30 p.m.	1050	Central City WNES	1:35 p.m.	940	Valentine .... KVSH	8:30 a.m.
1060	Chico ..... KPAY	7:35 a.m.	1490	Frankfort ... WFKY	6:35 p.m.	NEVADA		
	Los Angeles.. RWAV		860	Henderson ... WSON	8:30 a.m.	1240	Elko ..... KELK	9:00 a.m.
790	Los Angeles.. KABC	8:00 p.m.	1480	Hopkinsville WKOA	7:15 a.m.	1340	Las Vegas ... KORK	8:30 p.m.
1440	Napa ..... KVON	7:35 a.m.	1320	Mayfield ..... WNGO	7:30 a.m.	1340	Reno ..... KBET	8:30 p.m.
1230	Paso Robles.. KPRL	7:05 p.m.	1450	Paducah ..... WPAD	8:30 a.m.	1400	Winnemucca KWNA	10:00 a.m.
1140	Sacramento .. KRAK	8:30 p.m.	1490	Paintsville ... WSIP	9:30 p.m.	NEW HAMPSHIRE		
1350	San Bernardino KCKC	8:30 p.m.	1240	Pikesville ... WPKE	6:35 p.m.	1290	Keene ..... WKNE	11:35 a.m.
1360	San Diego ..... KGB	9:30 p.m.	1240	Somerset ..... WSFC	6:35 p.m.	1590	Nashua—	
810	San Francisco KFAX	10:30 a.m.	LOUISIANA			Manchester .... WSMN	9:30 p.m.	
1450	Sonoma ..... KVML		1340	Bastrop ..... KVOB		1380	Portsmouth .. WBBX	8:00 a.m.
1230	Stockton ..... KWG	8:30 p.m.	1450	Crowley ..... KSIG	5:35 p.m.	NEW MEXICO		
1390	Turlock ..... KCEY	8:30 p.m.	1320	Homer ..... KHAL		610	Albuquerque KGGM	
1450	Ventura ..... KVEN	6:35 p.m.	1420	Lafayette .... KPEL	8:30 a.m.	1450	Albuquerque .. KLOS	9:30 a.m.
COLORADO			600	New Orleans WWOM	9:15 a.m.	990	Artesia ..... KSVP	4:35 p.m.
1450	Alamosa ..... KGIW	4:30 p.m.	710	Shreveport ... KEEL	7:30 a.m.	1490	Los Alamos ... KRSN	8:30 a.m.
740	Cortez ..... KVFC	2:00 p.m.	MARYLAND			1340	Taos ..... KKIT	8:00 a.m.
710	Denver ..... KBTR	7:30 a.m.	970	Aberdeen ... WAMD	9:30 p.m.	1400	Tucumcari .. KTNM	5:00 p.m.
1230	Pueblo ..... KDZA	8:35 a.m.	1400	Baltimore .... WWIN	7:30 a.m.	1420	Santa Rosa ... KSYX	8:30 a.m.
CONNECTICUT			1240	Hagerstown ... WJEJ	9:30 p.m.	NEW YORK		
1490	Torrington .. WTOR	6:35 p.m.	MASSACHUSETTS			1340	Auburn ..... WMBO	8:35 p.m.
FLORIDA			1600	Boston ..... WBOS	10:00 p.m.	1290	Babylon ..... WGLI	8:05 a.m.
1490	DeLand ..... WJBS	9:30 p.m.	1400	Fall River ... WALE	6:35 p.m.	1450	Corning ..... WCLI	11:35 a.m.
1330	Fort Pierce ... WARM	7:45 a.m.	1340	Gardner ..... WGAW	6:35 p.m.	1490	Malone ..... WICY	6:35 p.m.
			1420	New Bedford WBSM		1340	Massena ..... WMSA	9:30 p.m.

KC City	Station	Time	KC City	Station	Time	KC City	Station	Time
1240	Saranac Lake	WNBZ 9:30 p.m.	1150	Orangeburg	WDIX 9:30 p.m.	VERMONT		
1450	Utica-Rome	WRUN 9:30 p.m.	1340	Rock Hill	WRHI 5:35 p.m.	1370	Bennington	WBTV
NORTH CAROLINA			1290	Sumter	WFIG 6:35 p.m.	1490	Brattiesboro	WKVT 1:05 p.m.
1580	Albemarle	WZKY	SOUTH DAKOTA			1400	Burlington	WDOT 7:30 a.m.
1270	Belmont	WCGC 9:30 p.m.	1340	Huron	KIJV 7:35 p.m.	VIRGINIA		
	Canton	WPTL	1490	Mitchell	KORN 4:35 p.m.	980	Bristol	WFHG 6:35 p.m.
1310	Durham	WTIK 9:30 p.m.	950	Watertown	KWAT 5:35 p.m.	1490	Culpepper	WCVA 5:35 p.m.
1240	Elizabeth City	WGAI 7:35 p.m.	TENNESSEE			1230	Fredericksburg	
1450	Gastonia	WGNC 9:30 p.m.	1450	Athens	WLAR 5:35 p.m.		WFVA	8:30 a.m.
730	Goldsboro	WFMC 1:00 p.m.	1560	Bolivar	WBOL	590	Lynchburg	WLVA 9:30 p.m.
1340	Greenville	WOOV 9:00 a.m.	1340	Columbia	WKRM 1:30 p.m.	790	Mt. Jackson	WSIG 12:35 p.m.
1450	Hendersonville	WHKP 2:30 p.m.	1400	Copperhill	WLSB 2:30 p.m.	1460	Radford	WRAD 4:00 p.m.
1340	Lenoir	WJRI 5:35 p.m.	1280	Dayton	WDNT 4:30 p.m.	1380	Richmond	WMBG 9:30 p.m.
1300	Mt. Airy	WSYD 5:35 p.m.	1240	Fayetteville	WEKR 6:35 p.m.	WASHINGTON		
1450	New Bern	WHIT 5:35 p.m.	100.1	Meg. Franklin	WELT 2:00 p.m.	930	Bellingham	KENY 3:35 p.m.
1600	Reidsville	WFRC 9:30 p.m.	1390	Jackson	WTJS 7:30 p.m.	1470	Centralia	
1390	Rocky Mount	WEED 9:30 p.m.	790	Johnson City	WETB 8:05 a.m.		Chehalis	KELA 3:35 p.m.
930	Washington	WITN 9:30 a.m.	1490	Lexington	WDXL 1:00 p.m.	1240	Ellensburg	KXLE
1550	Winston-Salem	WPEG 8:30 a.m.	960	McMinnville	WBCM 9:00 a.m.	1340	Kennewick	
NORTH DAKOTA			1150	Morristown	WCRK 9:35 p.m.		Pasco	KGRS 9:30 p.m.
1240	Devil's Lake	KDLR 4:35 p.m.	1450	Murfreesboro	WGNB 8:00 a.m.	680	Omaha	KOMW 9:15 a.m.
1280	Fargo	KVOX 7:35 a.m.	980	Nashville	WSIX 8:30 p.m.	1450	Puyallup	KAYE 1:30 p.m.
1440	Grand Forks	KILO 7:30 a.m.	1290	Oak Ridge	WATO 9:00 a.m.	1250	Seattle	KTW 9:30 p.m.
1390	Minot	KLPM 5:35 p.m.	1310	Oneida	WBNT 9:00 a.m.	1490	Walla Walla	KTEL 8:30 p.m.
OHIO			TEXAS			WEST VIRGINIA		
1530	Cincinnati	WCKY 9:30 p.m.	1470	Abilene	KRBC 8:15 a.m.	1340	Clarksburg	WHAR 9:30 p.m.
920	Columbus	WMNI 8:00 a.m.	940	Amarillo	KIXZ 7:30 a.m.	1230	Logan	WLOG 6:35 p.m.
1450	Dover	WJER 7:00 p.m.	1270	Bay City	KIOX 4:35 p.m.	1340	Montgomery	WMON 5:35 p.m.
1230	Ironton	WIRO 6:35 p.m.	1490	Big Spring	KBST 6:30 p.m.	1300	St. Albans	WKLC 9:00 a.m.
1390	Middleport	WMPO 8:05 p.m.	1490	Borger	KHUZ 4:35 p.m.	1400	Williamson	WBTH 6:35 p.m.
1340	Steubenville	WSTV 6:35 p.m.	1490	Brady	KNEL 1:30 p.m.	WISCONSIN		
OKLAHOMA			1380	Brownwood	KBWD 5:35 p.m.	1400	Eau Claire	WBIZ 8:05 p.m.
1240	Ardmore	KVSO 8:30 p.m.	1350	Clarksville	KCAR 8:30 a.m.	1450	Fond du Lac	KFIZ 5:35 p.m.
1600	Cushing	KUSH 1:00 p.m.	900	Conroe	KMCO 2:05 p.m.	1310	Madison	WIBA 8:05 a.m.
1390	Enid	KCRC 8:30 p.m.	1720	Eagle Pass	KEPS 9:05 a.m.	1240	Mantiowoc	WOMT 5:35 p.m.
1380	Lawton	KSWO 9:30 p.m.		Farwell	KZOL 2:00 p.m.	1240	Poynette	WIBU
1550	Madill	KMAD 3:00 p.m.	1540	Fort Worth	KCUL 7:05 a.m.	1400	Reedsburg	WRDB 5:35 p.m.
1150	McAlester	KNED 1:30 p.m.	1330	Graham	KSWA 12:30 p.m.	1450	Richland Ctr.	WRCO 8:30 p.m.
1000	Okla. City	KTOK 8:30 p.m.	1320	Houston	KXYZ 7:15 a.m.	1290	Sparta	
1280	Poteau	KLCO 1:00 p.m.	1400	Huntsville	KSAM 6:00 p.m.		Tomah	WCOV 5:30 p.m.
1570	Pryor	KOLS 5:15 p.m.	1400	Jacksonville	KEBE 5:35 p.m.	WYOMING		
1300	Tulsa	KOME 7:30 a.m.	1570	La Grange	KVLG 8:30 a.m.	1470	Casper	KTWO 9:05 p.m.
1470	Vinita	KVIN 7:30 a.m.	1050	Liberty	KWLD 8:30 a.m.	1050	Douglas	KWIV
1260	Wewoka	KWSH 8:30 p.m.	1490	Littlefield	KZZN 9:00 a.m.	1490	Gillette	KIML
OREGON			1370	Longview	KFRO 8:30 p.m.	FOREIGN		
1370	Astoria	KAST 3:30 p.m.	1420	Lufkin	KTRE 4:35 p.m.	CANADA		
1230	Coos Bay	KOOS 8:30 p.m.	1450	Marshall	WMHT 6:35 p.m.	Blind River,		
1600	Eugene	KASH 8:30 p.m.	550	Midland	KCRS 1:35 p.m.	Ont.	CJNR	10:15 a.m.
PENNSYLVANIA			1230	Pampa	KHHH 7:30 a.m.	Swift Current,		
1240	Altoona	WRTA 9:30 p.m.	1150	Quanaah	KOLJ 1:00 p.m.	Sask.	CKSW	3:00 p.m.
1330	Bellefonte	WBLF 7:35 p.m.		Robstown	KROB 8:30 a.m.	BERMUDA		
1490	Bradford	WESB 8:05 a.m.	960	San Angelo	KGKL 8:30 p.m.	Pembroke	ZBM	1:30 p.m.
1420	Coatsville	WCOJ 5:30 p.m.	550	San Antonio	KTSA 7:30 a.m.	LIBERIA		
1310	Ephrata	WGSA 4:35 p.m.	1580	Shamrock	KBYP 1:30 p.m.	650	Monrovia	ELBC 4:30 p.m.
1320	Gettysburg	WGET 8:35 a.m.	910	Sherman		NIGERIA		
1150	Huntingdon	WHUN 9:30 a.m.		Denison	KRRV 4:35 p.m.	Enugu	ENBS	1:30 p.m.
1230	Johnstown	WCRO 8:00 a.m.	1500	Sherman	KTXO 9:30 a.m.	PHILIPPINES		
1230	Lock Haven	WBPZ 6:35 p.m.	1050	Slaton	KCAS	Manila	DZQA	7:00 a.m.
1360	Pottsville	WPPA 6:35 p.m.	1240	Sonora	KCKG	RADIO EUROPE — NO. 1		
1400	St. Mary's	WKBI 6:35 p.m.	1400	Temple	KTEM 6:35 p.m.	1:00 am Wed. — Paris Time		
1340	Tyrone		1570	Terrell (Sat.)	KTER 8:00 a.m.	This is the most powerful Radio station in the world transmitting with a power out-put of 1,700,000 watts. This same time segment is being used other nights of the week by such people as Billy Graham, Dr. Hutcheson and others equally as famous.		
	Altoona	WTRN 7:35 a.m.	740	Texarkana	KCMC 8:35 p.m.			
1450	Washington	WJPA 8:35 a.m.	1260	Tulla	KTUE 12:30 p.m.			
1490	Wellsboro	WNBT 6:35 p.m.	690	Tyler	KZEY			
980	Wilkes Barre	WILK 9:30 p.m.	1340	Victoria	KVIC 4:35 p.m.			
1450	Williamsport	WMPT 9:30 p.m.	1390	Waxahachie	KBEC 4:30 p.m.			
RHODE ISLAND			620	Wichita Falls	KWFT 8:00 a.m.			
550	Providence	WXTR 10:30 p.m.	UTAH					
SOUTH CAROLINA			790	Blanding	KUTA 9:00 a.m.			
790	Bamberg	WWBD 1:30 p.m.	610	Logan	KVNU 9:30 p.m.			
1550	Bennetsville	WBSC 5:35 p.m.	1430	Ogden	KLO 7:30 p.m.			
1340	Charleston	WOKE 7:30 a.m.	1230	Price	KOAL 7:30 a.m.			
1400	Georgetown	WGTN 5:35 p.m.	1450	Provo	KIXX			
1270	Hampton	WBHC 11:00 a.m.	980	Richfield	KSVC 7:30 a.m.			
1450	Hartsville	WHSC 8:05 p.m.						

This list is not 100% correct due to frequent changes. Check your local newspaper or radio station for times not listed. All times are Sunday unless otherwise indicated.



ingful. Christ was trying to convey the intimacy of what happens when we take food into our bodies. The food actually becomes a part of our bodies. In effect He is saying, "I want you to take something that stands in place of my flesh and my blood into yourselves so completely that it becomes part of you." How could He say it more meaningfully than in giving us this supper in which we, in a sense, eat His flesh and drink His blood?

Let me turn back for a moment to read a few sentences from the sixth chapter of the gospel according to John: "Jesus therefore said unto them, Verily, verily I say unto you, Except ye eat the flesh of the Son of man and drink his blood, ye have not life in yourselves. He that eateth my flesh and drinketh my blood hath eternal life; and I will raise him up in the last day. For my flesh is meat indeed, and my blood is drink indeed" (John 6:53-55). In this beautiful symbolic meal, then, we eat and drink Christ, taking Him into ourselves spiritually.

When Christ instituted the Lord's Supper, He said, "This is my body," and handed them the bread. Of course, it was not literally His body. His body was still intact in their presence. When He said, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood," His blood still flowed through His veins. He was simply using a wonderful figure of speech, as He did on another occasion, in John 10, when He said, "I am the door," though He did not physically become a door. On still another occasion, in John 15, He said, "I am the vine," but He did not literally become a vine.

#### WHAT PURPOSE?

Why do we eat the Lord's Supper? Continuing our reading in I Corinthians 11, we find Paul giving the reasons, and what wonder-

ful reasons they are. "He brake it, and said, This is my body, which is for you, this do in remembrance of me." Once every seven days the Christian sits in quiet meditation, remembering Christ, His life, and especially His death on the cross, as he eats the Lord's Supper. Notice the sentence that follows, "In like manner also the cup, after supper, saying, This cup is the new covenant in my blood: this do, as often as ye drink it, in remembrance of me." We continue to read, "For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink the cup ye proclaim the Lord's death till he come" (I Corinthians 11:24-26). The passage does not look back only; it looks forward to the coming of Christ. It is a meal of rejoicing and anticipation; it is a declaration of faith that Christ is coming again; it is a teaching device for our children and those who might visit among us. We believe the Christ will come again and we say so every time we eat the Lord's Supper.

#### WHAT MANNER?

Finally Paul turns to the manner in which Christians eat the Lord's Supper. "Wherefore whosoever shall eat the bread or drink the cup of the Lord in an unworthy (or thoughtless) manner, shall be guilty of the body and the blood of the Lord" (I Corinthians 11:27). We must eat the Lord's Supper with sincerity. There must be no whispering, nothing except a reverence for the body and the blood of Christ.

"But let a man prove himself, and so let him eat of the bread and drink of the cup. For he that eateth and drinketh, eateth and drinketh judgment unto himself, if he discern not the body. For this cause many among you are weak and sickly, and not a few asleep" (I Corinthians 11:28-30). What a wonderful thing it is to eat the Lord's Supper, but what a

great responsibility to eat it worthily, thoughtfully, meaningfully.

As we look back over nineteen centuries of time, we see the Christians of the first century gathering on the Lord's Day to sing praises, to offer prayers, to study God's word, to give of their means and to eat the Lord's Supper. Through these five avenues of worship they offer their praise and devotion to God. Such worship is a wonderful privilege. It is a privilege of Christians.

There are also many other privileges which are possessed by those who are children of God. For example, we have God's promise that He will be with us in this life, working out the various problems and crises of our lives, for our ultimate good. In Romans 8:28 the apostle Paul said, "And we know to them that love God all things work together for good, even to them that are called according to his purpose." Later in that same chapter he added, "Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or anguish, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?"

... Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us. For I am persuaded that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord" (Romans 8:35, 37-39). Some years earlier Christ had given similar assurance when He said, "Be not anxious for your life, what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink; nor yet for your body, what ye shall put on. Is not the life more than the food, and the body than the raiment? ... But seek ye first his kingdom, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you" (Matthew 6:25, 33).

One of the greatest privileges that we Christians possess is the assurance that God cares for us and will see us through every emergency and every difficult situation of life.

In addition to this great promise, Christians also have the promise of life eternal in the world to come. As Jesus put it, "Let not your heart be troubled: believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you; for I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I come again, and will receive you unto myself; that where I am there ye may be also" (John 14:1-3).

With these great undergirding promises, the lives of Christians are radiantly happy. But notice that these promises are only for those who are Christians. The man who has not yet come to Christ still is in his sins and has no promise either of God's special care in this life nor of a home in heaven in the life to come. It is imperative, therefore, that each of us come to Christ, so that we may be cleansed of our sins. It was the apostle John who wrote, "If we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanseth us from all sin" (I John 1:7).

This simply means that each one of us, if we are to enjoy the blessings and privileges mentioned in God's book, must believe in Christ as the divine Son of God, must confess His name before men, must turn away from the world with its sin, and must be baptized for the forgiveness of our sins. In the book of Acts of the New Testament, there are eight major examples of conversion to guide us in what we should do. In every case conversion began with the preaching of the gospel of Christ.

Then, when the gospel had been heard, men believed it, repented of their sins, made known their faith in Christ, and were baptized for forgiveness of their sins. It is on this ancient, scriptural ground that we stand. May each of us comply with these simple conditions of pardon, so that we may receive God's free gift of salvation.

#### Juvenile . . .

(Continued from page 5)

10. Establish a regular practice of family worship, remembering that "The family that prays together stays together."

In the second place, the answer to our problem is Christian teaching, in time. In one of our states there is currently a vigorous debate over what should be done about illegitimacy. Some have suggested birth control as the answer. Others find this religiously unacceptable. In the midst of this heated discussion one man said, "What we need is to know the difference between right and wrong." How right he was! The answer is not the avoidance of bearing babies, but the teaching of morality.

The answer to self-indulgence and license is self-control. The only answer to sin is a heart controlled by God's will. This comes through the study of the scrip-

As we close this study, oh how we would like to share with you who are not yet Christians the privileges that are in Christ, including the great privilege of eating the Lord's Supper. We would urge upon you compliance with the Lord's commands, so that you may enjoy the blessings that He has in store for you.

tures and the acceptance of God's will for man. As Isaiah said it, "For it is precept upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line; line upon line; here a little there a little" (Isaiah 28:10). If our civilization is to survive, it is the church, the Bible, and the Lord to which we must turn.

The greatest need of our day is for more people to be real, dedicated Christians. Parents must lead the way. Young people will follow. Believe in Christ with all your heart. Repent or turn away from sin. Confess your faith in Christ before men, and then be baptized into Christ. Only the Christian parent has the means of training his children in the way they should go.

With new commitment to Christ and with new dedication to the task, we need to begin again to train up our children "in the nurture and admonition of the Lord." Finally, I would say when it comes to juvenile delinquency, we need to work as if the house were on fire, for in a very real sense it is!

#### FROM ILLINOIS:

Dear Brethren:

I am sending my offering to be used where needed most for the work of the HERALD OF TRUTH. If *All* the brotherhood could only be *one* in this great work the radio and TV programs are doing, what a wonderful work we could do. I pray many more will realize the value of this great work and send in their contributions. God bless you all. —GH



# The Slighted Invitation

By Batsell Barrett Baxter

Radio Sermon No. 612

ABC and MBS Networks

October 20, 1963

When Jesus was on the earth He taught a great many things in parables. These parables are stories that seem never to lose their power. They have come down through the centuries unimpaired for in each one of these stories, not only was there meaning for the age in which Jesus lived, but also for all the ages that were yet to come. I have chosen one of these to read to you at this time. Listen as I read Luke 14:16-24, the parable of the slighted invitation.

"A certain man made a great supper; and he bade many: and he sent forth his servant at supper time to say to them that were bidden, Come; for all things are now ready. And they all with one consent began to make excuse. The first said unto him, I have bought a field, and I must needs go out and see it; I pray thee have me excused. And another said, I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I go to prove them; I pray thee have me excused. And another said, I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come. And the servant came, and told his lord these things. Then the master of the house being angry said to his servant, go out quickly into the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in hither the poor and maimed and blind and lame. And the servant said, Lord, what thou didst command is done, and yet there is room. And the lord said unto the servant, Go out into the highways and hedges, and constrain them to come in, that my house may be filled. For I say unto you, that none of those men that were bidden shall taste of my supper." This is a story simple

enough that any child who is old enough to go to school can understand it, yet it is profound enough that it has a meaningful application to many millions of lives in our land today.

## KEY SENTENCES

In looking back through the story there are certain phrases that stand out. For instance, in the seventeenth verse there is the expression, "Come, for all things are now ready." Here is a clear-cut implication of a practice that would be considered unusual in our time. In Bible times they had two invitations for a banquet or supper. The first was sent out some days before the event, announcing that on a certain day at a certain time there would be a feast. Then, because they did not have clocks, there came a second invitation when everything was prepared. The servant would go out through the streets and call the people who had been invited earlier and would say, "Come, for all things are now ready."

It is interesting, by way of comparison, to remember that John the Baptist, as forerunner of Jesus, came and declared to all men that the kingdom of heaven was at hand. His was a preliminary announcement to the world that something great was about to take place. A little later Jesus came, died on the cross, and the church began. The kingdom was here.

In the eighteenth verse of our text we find a disappointing turn in the story, "They all with one consent began to make excuse." The word *excuse* is a familiar word,

but perhaps many of us do not know its origin. It comes from a Latin phrase *ex causa* which literally means "free from the charge," the idea being that a person is charged or blamed for something that is wrong and he makes excuse. He tried to free himself from the charge through providing fictitious evidence.

## PUTTING FIRST THINGS SECOND

In our story the men who were invited made three excuses. The first one said, "I have bought a field." That was certainly a legitimate thing. Property is necessary. Property is approved of God. The second man said, "I have bought five yoke of oxen and I go to prove them." Again, it is a legitimate thing to have oxen. These are means of production and it is proper and right for a man to be concerned about the means of making a living. The third man said, "I have married a wife and therefore I cannot come." Again, marriage is certainly a legitimate thing. It was ordained of God. The law of Moses, back in Deuteronomy 24:5, says a rather surprising thing to our modern ears. It allows a young married man a year of exemption from military service. If he is newly married he need not go to the army.

All of these are legitimate. Well, what is wrong then? The fact is that there was nothing wrong in any one of these activities—going out to examine property, going out to see that the means of production were sound, or going out to establish a home. The thing that is wrong is that even though they, in and of themselves are right, they

are allowed to crowd out something else that is also more important. In this instance they crowd out the Lord's invitation to a feast. Physical things are about to crowd out a spiritual feast. That is deep tragedy.

After these men had made their excuses, the master of the house became angry, closed his door against those who were not grateful enough to accept his invitation, and sent his servant out into the highways and byways to invite whoever would come. After a while the house was filled with guests, but those who had been invited originally were shut out. At first this story had its application to Christ's own people. They were God's own race of people, chosen to be recipients of the greatest blessing that any race ever had. The Messiah would come through them. Yet in spite of the fact that God had singled them out for honor and blessing, they rejected Christ. They declined the invitation. When they turned deaf ears our Lord then turned to other people. That is the original meaning of this message.

## WHY DID THEY REJECT JESUS?

But this passage has other implications. I have wondered sometimes, as I have tried to think of their rejection of Christ, why they did it? For one reason I believe they were so blinded by their preconceived ideas that they could not see that He was the Messiah. They misunderstood the fact that He was really the Son of God and the Savior of the world. Along with the fact they misunderstood the importance of accepting what He taught. They did not stop to realize that heaven and hell hung in the balances and that in rejecting Jesus of Nazareth they were actually choosing eternal condemnation for themselves.

There is a third thing that may be the real causative factor. They

were so interested in their own affairs—so preoccupied with their own immediate wants that they did not seem to be very interested in the long-range eternal things that Jesus was offering. There is a sentence in Paul's letter to the Philippians which seems to describe them and many of our day as well. In Philippians 2:21, the apostle Paul writes, "They all seek their own and not the things of Jesus Christ." That seems to describe so many people of the world. Our own immediate, human, earthly wants crowd out the more meaningful, eternal, spiritual needs of our lives.

## OUR EXCUSES

A few moments ago we said that these men in our story made excuses. Do we also in our day make excuses? Have you ever heard, for instance, a man say, "Well, I got too much religion when I was a boy"? What he really ought to say is, "Some aspects of my early training were unfortunate and religion was not presented to me in its ideal or true form and I became prejudiced against it. But I am going to come back now and let the Lord's teaching come into my life."

An example of something similar to this is the case of Bruce Barton who was at one time a congressman from New York and through most of his life an advertising executive in a major New York advertising firm. As he tells the story, when he was a little boy he was made to go to Sunday school, made to be religious, so to speak. When he got big enough he decided that he would quit it all. He spoke of Sunday school as his weekly hour of rebellion. For a number of years he did not darken a church door. Later, as a mature man, he went back and studied the whole matter of religion and wrote the very meaningful book, *The Man Nobody*

*Knows*, in tribute to Jesus Christ. I am sure that many a man has grown up with few happy memories of church-going and of religion in general, but he must not let this situation blind him to the salvation that Christ offers through His church.

Sometimes we hear a person say, "I am too tired when Sunday comes." I am sure that many of us are tired at the end of the week, or at the beginning of the week, or in the middle of the week. However, it is a tragedy to shut out the greatest blessing there is in life because we are physically tired. Some other things can be left off, but the religion of Christ cannot be left off. The man who says, "I work hard all week and I am too tired to go to church on Sunday" is simply crowding out the thing he needs most. It would be like a man getting up in the morning and saying, "I am too tired to go to the table to eat; I am going to miss all my meals today; I am just too tired to eat." It is even more tragic, because spiritual food he must have.

Sometimes we hear the old, old, old excuse, "There are too many hypocrites in the church." Where would you rather have the hypocrites than in the church? Maybe, if they come often enough and hear enough, they will change and not be hypocrites. Or, where in this world can you go where there are no hypocrites? Certainly not into business or the professions, because they are there. Name a field and hypocrites are there. While I am sure that many have stumbled because of the examples of some who were not really, deeply Christians, it is just an excuse. Seeing the thinness of the excuses that these men made in the long ago might just possibly help us see that we also rationalize and make excuses, trying to free ourselves from blame. These men shut themselves off



from salvation and so does modern man when he makes excuses.

#### BUT—NOT EVERYONE REJECTED JESUS

But I would say something else. While there were many who rejected the invitation of Christ there were also many who accepted it. It is this that I would emphasize even more than the rejection of Jesus. Do you get a thrill when you read the second chapter of Acts about the beginning of the church? Peter stood up and preached a sermon about Christ, and after a while people began to be deeply concerned about their souls. Before the day was over 3,000 people had responded to Peter's instructions, "repent ye, and be baptized, every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ unto the remission of your sins" (Acts 2:38). Three thousand people accepted the invitation; they did not reject it. That is just the beginning. A few weeks later, the gospel was preached in Samaria. Simon the sorcerer and others turned the direction of their lives and became Christians.

Think of that chariot ride from Jerusalem to Gaza when a man from Ethiopia heard the gospel. He did not reject the invitation. That very day he asked, "Behold, here is water; what doth hinder me to be baptized?" (Acts 8:36). They stopped the chariot and he was baptized. Do you feel a deep rejoicing when you read of Saul of Tarsus on the road to Damascus changing the whole direction of his life? He had been outstanding as a persecutor of Christians and then suddenly he accepted the Lord's invitation. A few days later, after he was more fully instructed, in the city of Damascus, he, too, was baptized. These are people who accepted the invitation and this is just the beginning. On and on it goes.

In Philippi a little later we find a businesswoman by the name of Lydia accepting the invitation. She and those who worked with her were baptized. Then a Roman jailor accepted the invitation. It was between midnight and dawn, under rather unusual circumstances, but here was a man who reversed everything that he previously had been taught in order to accept Christ. Think also of the Roman centurion at Caesarea, Cornelius, and how that everything in his educational background was given up in order that he might worship Jehovah and be a Christian. While we do lament that some tragically did turn from Christ and did not accept His invitation, I want to emphasize that Christ reached into all kinds of homes and hearts and that thousands of people have accepted His invitation.

I have only begun to trace the ones listed in the Bible. When Paul moved on from Philippi there were those at Thessalonica who accepted him. There were those at Berea. Some of their names are given. When he got to Athens he stood on Mar's Hill in the Areopagus and when he had finished preaching, Dionysius, the Areopagite, a member of the senate of ancient Athens, and a woman named Damaris believed. Later, he moved on to Corinth and some there believed and a church was started from among people who before had been pagans. The power of the invitation of Christ

is a very great power and the Lord has not gone unnoticed. Only some of the people have rejected Him.

I get a particular thrill when I read the final portion of the book of Philippians. There we find Paul, while a prisoner in Rome, sending greetings from those "that are of Caesar's household." The gospel had been preached even in Rome, the invitation had been heard and there were Christians in Caesar's household.

#### THE GREATEST MISTAKE

In this little while we have talked about people who have made the greatest mistake that man can make. They turned away from the salvation provided by the Lord. In this little while we have also talked about those who have accepted Christ. I want to plead with you, do not make the tragic mistake of rejecting the invitation of your Lord. Do not put it off to some later time. There is nothing in life that is as important as this. You need to do it now while you are sure that you have opportunity. Believe in Christ as God's Son, repent of your past sins, confess the name of Jesus before men and then be buried with your Lord in baptism, the glorious act which symbolizes the Lord's death, burial and resurrection. Rise from that grave of water to walk in newness of life. The invitation of the Lord has often been rejected — but not by those who will spend eternity in heaven.

#### FROM ALABAMA:

Dear Sir:

I am a member of the Lord's church and must say it is a wonderful work that is being done over the HERALD OF TRUTH. I enjoy the programs very much and believe it is a fine way to preach the Gospel to the lost and dying world. I just hope and pray that people will turn to the truth and obey the Gospel before it is everlastingly too late. —Mr. BHL

# When Duties Become Desires

By Batsell Barrett Baxter

Radio Sermon No. 613

ABC and MBS Networks

October 27, 1963

The eighth chapter of the book of Hebrews quotes a passage from the thirty-first chapter of the Old Testament book of Jeremiah, as follows: "Behold, the days come saith the Lord, that I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah; Not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day that I took them by the hand to lead them forth out of the land of Egypt; for they continued not in my covenant, And I regarded them not saith the Lord. For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel, After those days, saith the Lord; I will put my laws into their minds, And on their heart also will I write them: And I will be to them a God, And they shall be to me a people" (Hebrews 8:8-10).

#### WRITTEN ON YOUR HEART

Part of this passage will serve as our text: "I will put my laws into their mind, And on their heart also will I write them." Another translation of the passage uses the expression, "My laws written on your heart." Then God speaks about writing His laws in our hearts in the New Covenant. He is not, I think, speaking about memorizing scriptures, though, of course, that is an excellent practice. Rather, He is thinking about the spirit of His laws taking hold of our hearts. In the Old Testament period the people often kept God's law without really taking it into their hearts. Isaiah made a statement which Jesus quoted centuries later. "This people honoreth me with their lips, but their heart is far from me"

(Matthew 15:8). Another passage, in which Jesus used as strong a condemnation as we know anywhere in the scriptures, is along that same line: "Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye tithe mint and anise and cummin, and have left undone the weightier matters of the law, justice and mercy and faith: but these ye ought to have done, and not have left the others undone. Ye blind guides, that strain out the gnat, and swallow the camel!" (Matthew 23:23-24). They were giving a tenth of their minute garden vegetables, yet their hearts were so estranged from God that they forgot about justice and mercy and faith. In the Old Testament there was quite often a legalistic kind of obedience, so when Christ came ushering in the new law God planned that it should be a law written in the heart. He desired that it be a law in which the spirit takes hold of men's hearts.

You might for a moment compare it to a man driving his car past a school. As he approaches the school zone he remembers the reduced speed limit when he sees an officer directing traffic. Out of respect for the officer and his punitive power he slows to the legitimate speed. He does so because he does not want to pay a fine. Later, this same man almost runs over a child. By a hair's breadth he is able to stop and save the child's life. Now, when he passes a school an officer is no longer needed. He feels inside himself the reason for driving slowly. That is the law written on the heart. When God's law becomes a part of us our obedience

really counts. The gist of what I want to say is the conforming of our wills to the will of God. It must not be obedience in rebellion, but obedience because we have actually come to see things God's way and because the spirit has been changed so that we want to do what God wants us to do.

#### THE WAY TO BE HAPPY

Someone recently said, "The way to be happy is to keep our wants few and simple." This is a worthy bit of advice, for one of the reasons why our modern age is not happier is that we have so many wants. As our standard of living has risen we have learned to want hundreds of things we did not know to want a few years ago. As our wants have become numerous our disappointments have become numerous, too. There is a great deal to be said for keeping wants few and simple.

I believe, however, that there is something more important still to be said about our wants. On a much deeper basis, the way to be happy is to keep our wants and desires within the bounds of our God-given duties. Have you ever thought of making a list of your duties, the things you must do in order to please God? Have you ever made a parallel list of the things that you desire to do? Happiness comes when you can bring that list of desires to coincide with the list of duties. The man who "has to go to church" never enjoys it. But the man who desires to go to church services, enjoys it, gets something out of it and is pleasing to God. When we do something as if it were a burden or a task it is not a happy situa-



tion. If we can come to desire to do it, then all of the drudgery and all of the dislike is drained away. When we can bring our desires into line with our duties, we can be happy and serve God in a way that is pleasing to Him and beneficial to ourselves.

#### AFTER YEARS OF TRAINING

A famous philosopher, in his later years, made the statement, "I can do everything I want to do." His statement is full of meaning for it means that through a great many years he had so guided his thinking that eventually everything he wanted to do was all right. Is it not a wonderful thing when a man can truthfully say, "I can do everything I want to do"? To so tune our wills that eventually everything we desire is what God desires is a worthy Christian goal.

Sometimes we classify things as work or play, but work and play can be the same. If we can put our hearts into work, it becomes play. I have seen men earning their livings in a kind of activity that was so pleasing to them that it was not really work. It was as enjoyable as playing. For example, I remember a number of years ago taking a group of students over to the University of California at Los Angeles to hear several men speak. Among them was a grey-haired man dressed in rather striking fashion. When he was introduced, Dr. Harrison Cam said something like this, "Young people, I am doing just what I want to do. If they didn't pay me a dime I'd still want to train young people to speak." And there was something about the way he said it that made us believe it. He was engaged in a work that he liked to do, and it was no longer work for him. It was closer to play.

On a very deep level we are saying, "If you want to enjoy

life, then put your heart into your work." Is not that a happy expression? We use it often. "Put your heart into your work." If you want to be a Christian, if you want to really please God and serve Him in ways that are acceptable to Him then put your heart into it.

#### GOD'S WILL, CHRIST'S DESIRE

We have examples from one end of the Bible to the other of people who, to a greater or lesser degree, put their hearts into their work. The example that stands out more than any of the others is the example of the Lord Himself. Everything Christ did was done because He believed it to be God's will. Particularly in John's account of the life of Jesus do you find this standing out. Over and over again Jesus said that He was not here to accomplish His own will, "but the will of him that sent me." The expression "him that sent me" occurs again and again. Here are two typical verses, "Jesus therefore said, When ye have lifted up the Son of man, then shall ye know that I am he, and that I do nothing of myself, but as the Father taught me, I speak these things. And he that sent me is with me; he hath not left me alone; for I do always the things that are pleasing to him" (John 8:28-29). When Jesus came He came to do the will of God and He did it perfectly. That is the reason that in another chapter He could say, "He that hath seen me hath seen the Father" (John 14:9). There is our perfect example, but there are others.

#### CRUCIFIED WITH CHRIST

One of our favorite examples is that of the apostle Paul. Turn to one of his earlier letters, the letter to the Galatians. We find there a statement that indicates the degree to which he had conformed his will to the Lord's will: "I have been crucified with Christ; (Now

that was voluntary, remember.) It is no longer I that live, but Christ liveth in me! And that life which I now live in the flesh I live in faith, the faith that is in the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself up for me" (Galatians 2:20). Here is a man who once had very different goals in life, a man who looked for personal advancement in the Jewish realm, but after he came to believe that Christ was the Son of God, he conformed his thinking to Christ's thinking so completely that he could actually say, "I have been crucified with Christ."

Turning to another of these brief letters that the apostle Paul wrote, we find him describing his imprisonment in Rome. There were chains, and soldiers sitting with him around the clock. He writes, "I would have you know, brethren, that the things that have happened unto me have fallen out rather unto the progress of the gospel (It looks like I am in a terrible fix, but I want you to know that these things have actually worked out for good.) so that my bonds became manifest in Christ throughout the whole praetorian guard, and to all the rest; and that most of the brethren in the Lord, being confident through my bonds, are more abundantly bold to speak the word of God without fear" (Philippians 1:12-14). There is no resentment in that, no mouthing about his ill luck.

On that same page he says, "According to my earnest expectation and hope, that in nothing shall I be put to shame, but that with all boldness, as always, so now also Christ shall be magnified in my body whether by life or by death. For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain. But if to live in the flesh, — if this shall bring fruit from my work, then what I shall choose I know not. But I am in a strait betwixt the two, having

the desire to depart and be with Christ; for it is very far better: Yet to abide in the flesh is more needful for your sake. And having this confidence, I know that I shall abide, yea, and abide with you all, for your progress and joy in the faith" (Philippians 1:20-25). He is an old man and the prison in Rome is not pleasant. He is saying, "I had rather die and be with Christ in heaven, but if he wants me here I am happy to stay and preach."

Not only do we find some in the Bible who conformed their desires to the duties that God put before them, but we have also known them in this present age. I think I could name a number of people who could say truthfully, "I want what God wants. Whatever God wants, that is what I want." If we can only make those things that we have to do the things that we want to do, how happy we will be not only in this world, but also in the next.

#### HOW CAN WE DO IT?

There are several ways by which to convert duties into desires. First, if we will just start doing our duties eventually they will become desires. That is largely true. Start doing something that you do not at first enjoy. After a while you find that it is not so bad after all, and eventually you come to enjoy it. I remember that on the first occasion I did not enjoy eating green olives, but I like them now. I remember the first time I ate an avocado. It was the most tasteless thing I had ever eaten. Who could possibly enjoy avocados? But I like them now, several hundred avocados later. Can you remember some of the vegetables that were so repulsive to you in childhood? Now when you go into a restaurant you order them by choice. Perhaps it is some piece of music that you did not like until you heard it a number of

times. Then it became a favorite. A great many things that we do not like at first, eventually become favorites. So, begin doing your duties and after a while they will become desires.

#### READING THE BIBLE

In transforming our wills into God's will there must be many hours spent with the Bible. We must know what God's will is. As we learn it, it will become more and more appealing. Why should it not? God made the world and He knows the grain of the wood so to speak. He knows everything about everything. We know hardly anything. We are here for the first time; we are inexperienced; we are novices at best. Is it not ridiculous for man — tiny little insignificant speck that he is — to say "My way is better than God's way"? God, who loves us and who blesses us with all these infinite blessings, staked out the best road. Why should we wish to go some other way? As we read His word we come to see the wisdom of His laws. Things that once did not seem to mean very much, eventually come to seem very wise. Our own immaturity and thoughtlessness are so obvious.

#### PRAYER

In conforming our wills to the Lord's will we need to spend more time in prayer. In addition to the things that prayer accomplishes, it has a mellowing effect upon our lives. We just cannot be in rebellion against God while we pray. Praying does something to a man's heart. It brings him into a pliable condition in which he is more likely to want that which God wants for him.

The singing of great Christian hymns is another means of tuning our desires into the Lord's desires. Singing, for example, the song, "I Surrender All," will do something to a man.

"All to Jesus I surrender  
All to him I freely give.  
I will ever love and trust him  
In his presence daily live.  
"I surrender all, I surrender all  
All to Jesus, my blessed Savior;  
I surrender all."

We often sing above our present accomplishments, but singing actually helps to make these great sentiments part of us. Notice another of the great hymns:

"O, to be like Thee, Blessed Redeemer  
This is my constant longing and prayer.  
Gladly I'll forfeit all of earth's treasures,  
Jesus, Thy perfect likeness to wear."

Singing it again and again lets the words take hold of our hearts and helps to make it true.

Associating with Christian people is another means of bringing our desires into God's channels. There are so many ways to make our duties into desires, but mainly we just need to realize that this is what we ought to do. God knows, God cares, God loves, and if only we are wise we will make our wants and our desires conform to the things that God demands of us.

#### CONCLUSION

When men everywhere bring their desires into conformity with God's will they will be infinitely happier. How do you begin? You begin by becoming a Christian. You begin by saying, "Here I am in a strange and difficult world, and I'm ready to follow Jesus, my Lord." Turn away from the world, then give yourself to Christ by confessing Him before men and by being baptized for the forgiveness of your sins. Then follow in His steps. It will be the happiest life you have ever known and someday those steps will lead right off this earth into that happy world beyond.



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